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the State, and a reward of three pence a head was offered for their destruction. This necessitated the payment of eight thousand pounds sterling (640,000 individuals having been killed) which so depleted the treasury that the premium was decreased one-half."

The book is readable throughout, and its carefully prepared biographical sketches will have a permanent interest.

GRAY'S SYNOPTICAL FLORA.[1]—Everything from the pen of Dr. Gray is welcomed by the botanists of the country as a contribution from one who is a master. A few years ago a volume appeared bearing the title Synoptical Flora, which covered the ground of the Gamopetalæ after Compositæ. The volume before us, which closely resembles its predecessor, includes the gamopetalous orders Caprifoliaceæ, Rubiaceæ, Valerianaceæ, Dipsaceæ and Compositæ. The two volumes thus cover the whole of the North American Gamopetalæ, and bring our knowledge of this great group down to the present.

It may be interesting to give here in concise form some of the results brought out by this volume. By taking Bentham and Hooker's Genera Plantarum and comparing our North American composite flora with the composite flora of the world, we find that we have representatives of eleven of the thirteen tribes into which the order is now divided. We have 235 genera out of 766, or about thirty per cent of the whole. Our species (nearly 1500) constitute about four per cent of the whole.

If we look over the tribes we find the per cent of North American genera and species to be as follows:

	Per cent of genera.	*Per cent of species.*
1. Vernoniaceæ	7½	2½
2. Eupatoriaceæ	43	14
3. Asteroideæ	36	29
4. Inuloideæ	10	4
5. Helianthoideæ	46	30¾
6. Helenioideæ	70	68
7. Anthemideæ	20	7½
8. Senecionidæ	36	8⅓
9. Calendulaceæ	0	0
10. Arctotideæ	0	0
11. Cynaroideæ	19	4½
12. Mutisiaceæ	10	2¼
13. Cichoriaceæ	52	6⅓

From the foregoing table it is readily seen that our flora is rich in genera, and that it is particularly so in Helenioideæ, Cichoriaceæ, Helianthoideæ and Eupatoriaceæ. In like manner we observe that the Helenioideæ, Helianthoideæ and Asteroideæ are rich in species, the first named having about five times the normal per cent. On the other hand it is interesting to notice the low per cent of species of Vernoniaceæ, Inuloideæ and tribes seven to thirteen inclusive. Curiously the North American Cichoriaceæ, which contain fifty-two per cent of the genera, include but a little above six per cent of the species!

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[1] *Synoptical Flora of North America.* By ASA GRAY, LL.D., F.M.R.S. and L.S. Lond., R.I.A. Dubl., etc., etc. Vol. I, Part II. Caprifoliaceæ–Compositæ. Published by the Smithsonian Institution, Washington. New York, London and Leipsic. July, 1884, pp. 474.

We can take no more space here for further notice of this most valuable addition to our botanical literature. We but express the earnest hope and wish of all workers in botany that the veteran author may be spared to give us the remainder of our flowering plants in the Synoptical Flora.—*C. E. B.*

ALLEN'S HUMAN ANATOMY.[1]—This work, the issue of the first part of which was noticed in this magazine, is now completed by the appearance of Section VI, which treats of the organs of sense, organs of digestion and genito-urinary organs. This part alone contains a hundred and sixteen wood-cuts and sixteen full-page engravings. It need scarcely be said that full justice is done to the various organs mentioned in the title page, but it may be added that a chapter is devoted to the superficial and topographical anatomy of the various parts of the body, and another most interesting one to embryology and the study of malformations—a subject to which Dr. Allen has given considerable study. The illustrations are so drawn as to be especially clear to the student.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

Shields, C. W.—The order of the sciences. New York, 1882. From the author.

Wright, R. R., McMurrich, J. P., Macallum, A. B., McKenzie, T.—Contributions to the anatomy of Amiurus. 1884. From the author.

Stevenson, W. G.—Physiological significance of vital force. Ext. Popular Sci. Monthly, April, 1884. From the author.

Williams, Alb.—Mineral resources of the United States. 1883.

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Toula, F.—Ueber einige Säugethier reste von Gerlach bei Turnau, Steiermark. Ext. Jahrb. d. k. k. geol. Reichsanstalt, 1884. From the author.

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Lesquereux, Leo—Description of the coal flora of the Carboniferous formation in Penna. and throughout the United States, Vol. III. Second Geol. Surv. Penna. From the survey, through Leo Lesquereux.

Eaton, J.—Report of the Commissioner of Education for 1882–'83. Washington, 1884. Also an abstract of the above.

——Circular of information of the Bureau of Education. No. 4. All from the department.

Peale, A. C.—The world's geyser-regions. 1884. From the author.

Genth, F. A.—On Herderite. Ext. Proc. Amer. Philo. Soc., Aug., 1884. From the author.

Marshall, A. M.—On the nervous system of *Antedon rosaceus*. Ext. Quart. Jour. Micros. Science, 1884. From the author.

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[1] *A System of Human Anatomy, including its Medical and Surgical Relations.* By HARRISON ALLEN, M.D. Philadelphia, Henry C. Lea's Son & Co. 1883.